# **EXHIBIT F**

# PRESURVEY NOTIFICATION FORM

Applicant/Permittee's Mailing Address:	Date: 11/20/2014
George Tate	Jurisdiction: FederalState _X_Both
USGS Pacific Coastal and Marine Geology	If State: Permit #PRC 8394
400 Natural Bridges Drive	Region: III
Santa Cruz, CA 95060	Area: Santa Cruz, CA
GEOPHYS:	ICAL SURVEY PERMIT
Check one: X New survey	Time extension of a previous survey
	ne survey area outlined on the accompanying ential interference with commercial fishing or other
National Science Foundation [NSF]) NOTE: Any comments regarding po	eau of Ocean Energy Management [BOEM] or stential conflicts in Federal waters must be received tative and lead Federal agency within ten (10) days
	monthly surveys of the same area to assess elated to seasonal storms and El Nino Seasonal anthropogenic influences.

- Expected Date of Operation: November 20, 2014 to April 30, 2015 A series of two day surveys will be conducted approximately at monthly intervals, as weather and project scheduling permits, for 5 months through April 30, 2015.
- 2. Hours of Operation: <u>7AM to 5PM</u>
- 3. Vessel Names: CPS Duke, CPS Eddie (Personal Watercraft Jet Skis)

- 4. Vessel Official Number: <u>USGS-9004807, USGS-9004808</u>
- 5. Vessel Radio Call Sign: None Assigned
- 6. Vessel Captain's Name: Timothy Elfers, Daniel Hoover
- 7. Vessel will monitor Radio Channel(s): 82a,16
- 8. Vessel Navigation System: <u>Differential GPS</u>
- 9. Equipment to be used:
- 1. Odom Echotrac Bathymetric Echo Sounder
  - a. Frequency (Hz, kHz): 200 kHz
  - b. Source level: (dB re 1 µPa at 1 meter (m) (rms): 93 dB RMS
  - c. Number of beams, across track beam width, and along track beam width:

    1 beam, 9° conical beam. 5m along track, 5m across track
  - d. Pulse rate and length: 4.5-13.5 pps at 34-500 µ seconds depending on water depth.
  - e. Rise time: 7 µ seconds
  - f. Estimated distances to the 190 dB, 180 dB, and 160 dB re 1 uPa (rms) isopleths,

$$190 \, dB$$
:  $<1M$ ;  $180 \, dB$ :  $<1M$ ;  $160 \, dB$ :  $<1M$ 

These estimates are based on the underwater sound propagation equation:

RSPL=recieved sound potential level

SL= RMS source level re. 1 uPa (rms) based on manufacturer's specifications

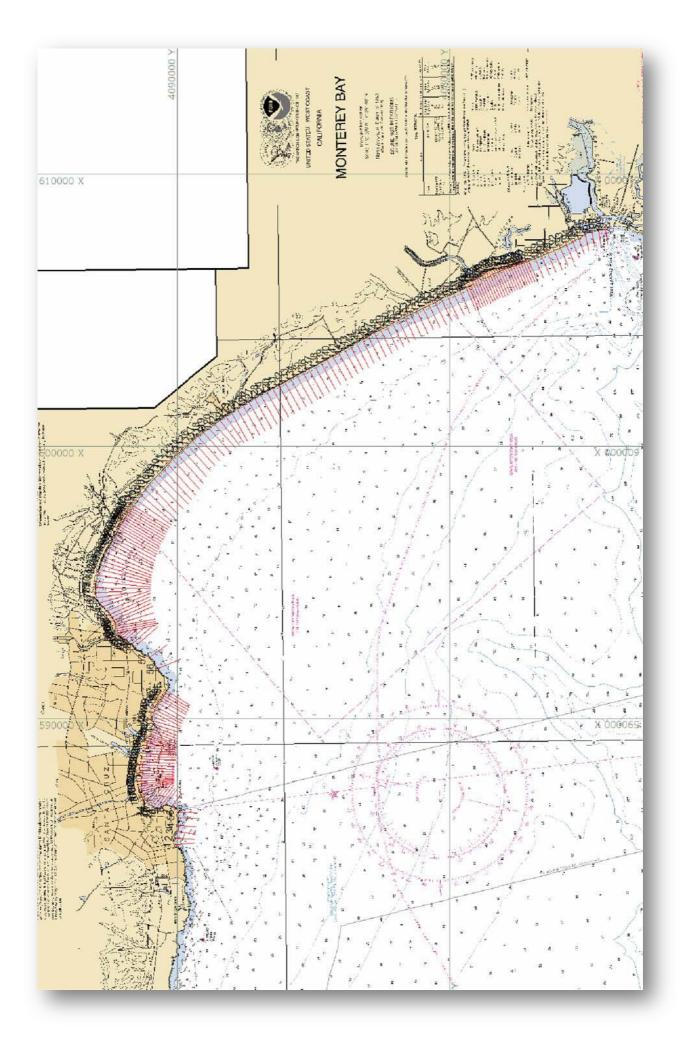
R= Distance

Ro= Reference Distance (1 m)

A= sound absorption coefficient

- g. Deployment depth: 0.25 m
- h. Tow speed: 4 knots
- i. Approximate length of cable tow: <u>0</u> m.

Applicant's Representative: Daniel Hoover US Geological Survey 400 Natural Bridges Drive Santa Cruz, CA 95060 831-460-7544 California State Lands Representative: Richard B. Greenwood Statewide Geophysical Coordinator 200 Oceangate, 12th Floor Long Beach, CA 90802-4331 (562) 590-5201 BOEM Representative: Joan Barminski Chief, Office of Reservoir & Production 770 Paseo Camarillo Camarillo, CA 93010 (805) 389-7707



The survey area is bounded by the coordinates:

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36° 57.0895-122° 2.415736° 57.0673-122° 1.453136° 57.6394-122° 1.410136° 57.2452-121° 58.776236° 58.5835-121° 56.368336° 57.7599-121° 53.918836° 48.5081-121° 47.288736° 48.4132-121° 47.806336° 57.1926-121° 54.479736° 57.4013-121° 56.991036° 56.8031-121° 58.960436° 56.7313-122° 2.3667
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The track line coordinates are:

Line No.	Star	t Line	En	d Line
Line No.	LAT	LON	LAT	LON
Line0103	36.95313	-122.04112	36.94635	-122.04033
Line0104	36.95285	-122.03839	36.94639	-122.03880
Line0105	36.95222	-122.03542	36.94611	-122.03682
Line0106	36.95201	-122.03293	36.94575	-122.03370
Line0107	36.95201	-122.02987	36.94540	-122.03028
Line0108	36.95206	-122.02768	36.94536	-122.02797
Line0109	36.95395	-122.02546	36.95067	-122.02004
Line0110	36.95618	-122.02483	36.95208	-122.01843
Line0111	36.95800	-122.02595	36.95260	-122.01743
Line0112	36.95894	-122.02555	36.95320	-122.01658
Line0113	36.96007	-122.02550	36.95384	-122.01588
Line0114	36.96084	-122.02489	36.95534	-122.01634
Line0115	36.96129	-122.02395	36.95672	-122.01689
Line0116	36.96186	-122.02302	36.95871	-122.01870
Line0117	36.96233	-122.02181	36.96163	-122.02149
Line0118	36.96280	-122.02090	36.96058	-122.01988
Line0119	36.96296	-122.01976	36.95972	-122.01848
Line0120	36.96327	-122.01879	36.95348	-122.01567
Line0121	36.96345	-122.01771	36.95331	-122.01520
Line0122	36.96349	-122.01669	36.95335	-122.01474
Line0123	36.96356	-122.01566	36.95328	-122.01436
Line0124	36.96369	-122.01461	36.95327	-122.01387
Line0125	36.96359	-122.01353	36.95344	-122.01342
Line0126	36.96343	-122.01251	36.95326	-122.01285
Line0127	36.96342	-122.01134	36.95304	-122.01217
Line0128	36.96344	-122.01023	36.95303	-122.01105
Line0129	36.96357	-122.00909	36.95288	-122.01001

Line0130	36.96342	-122.00789	36.95277	-122.00878
Line0131	36.96317	-122.00678	36.95257	-122.00746
Line0132	36.96268	-122.00561	36.95236	-122.00611
Line0133	36.96231	-122.00451	36.95235	-122.00503
Line0134	36.96222	-122.00340	36.95222	-122.00377
Line0135	36.96046	-122.00237	36.95202	-122.00287
Line0136	36.96107	-122.00119	36.95209	-122.00191
Line0137	36.96140	-122.00010	36.95550	-122.00087
Line0138	36.96125	-121.99911	36.95206	-122.00116
Line0139	36.96112	-121.99815	36.95516	-121.99982
Line0140	36.96087	-121.99738	36.95183	-122.00047
Line0141	36.96055	-121.99636	36.95514	-121.99856
Line0142	36.95992	-121.99553	36.95190	-121.99948
Line0143	36.95950	-121.99463	36.95184	-121.99840
Line0144	36.95922	-121.99355	36.95190	-121.99728
Line0145	36.95823	-121.99296	36.95182	-121.99605
Line0146	36.95885	-121.99151	36.95140	-121.99462
Line0147	36.95898	-121.99013	36.95093	-121.99315
Line0148	36.95918	-121.98842	36.95563	-121.99015
Line0149	36.95881	-121.98698	36.95056	-121.99222
Line0150	36.95843	-121.98572	36.95004	-121.99115
Line0151	36.95785	-121.98465	36.94965	-121.99028
Line0152	36.95730	-121.98306	36.94928	-121.98900
Line0153	36.95645	-121.98193	36.94874	-121.98747
Line0154	36.95598	-121.98092	36.94839	-121.98661
Line0155	36.95561	-121.97990	36.94795	-121.98559
Line0156	36.95524	-121.97877	36.94758	-121.98470
Line0157	36.95492	-121.97775	36.94726	-121.98371
Line0158	36.95775	-121.96816	36.95117	-121.96498
Line0159	36.96048	-121.96347	36.95473	-121.95835
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Line0161	36.96615	-121.95774	36.95965	-121.95077
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Line0163	36.96830	-121.95585	36.96460	-121.95194
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Line0166	36.97040	-121.95402	36.96968	-121.95355
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Line0169	36.97144	-121.95151	36.95847	-121.94878
Line0170	36.97131	-121.95055	36.95861	-121.94787
Line0171	36.97145	-121.94983	36.95919	-121.94531
Line0172	36.97174	-121.94911	36.95967	-121.94275
Line0173	36.97226	-121.94811	36.96007	-121.94146
Line0174	36.97290	-121.94687	36.96030	-121.93998
Line0175	36.97359	-121.94568	36.96029	-121.93857
Line0176	36.97473	-121.94435	36.96008	-121.93725
Line0177	36.97592	-121.94238	36.95998	-121.93605
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Line0178	36.97713	-121.94092	36.96942	-121.93835
Line0179	36.97781	-121.93875	36.96299	-121.93628
Line0180	36.97799	-121.93658	36.96943	-121.93637
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Line0182	36.97766	-121.93214	36.96006	-121.93461
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Line0184	36.97646	-121.92738	36.95987	-121.93263
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Line0189	36.97334	-121.91868	36.95917	-121.92723
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Line0208	36.96107	-121.89494	36.95173	-121.90661
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Line0210	36.95809	-121.89069	36.94892	-121.90254
Line0211	36.95651	-121.88879	36.94734	-121.90055
Line0212	36.95485	-121.88689	36.94621	-121.89879
Line0213	36.95338	-121.88475	36.94470	-121.89707
Line0214	36.95192	-121.88267	36.94345	-121.89454
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Line0221	36.93984	-121.86999	36.93313	-121.87949
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Line0223	36.93617	-121.86681	36.93002	-121.87672
Line0224	36.93435	-121.86521	36.92847	-121.87593
Line0225	36.93243	-121.86368	36.92747	-121.87492
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Line0226	36.93051	-121.86221	36.92546	-121.87372
Line0227	36.92854	-121.86067	36.92347	-121.87237
Line0228	36.92662	-121.85923	36.92134	-121.87126
Line0229	36.92473	-121.85770	36.91947	-121.86975
Line0230	36.92267	-121.85653	36.91753	-121.86831
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Line0253	36.87673	-121.82701	36.87342	-121.83531
Line0254	36.87452	-121.82602	36.87148	-121.83390
Line0255	36.87259	-121.82449	36.86940	-121.83260
Line0256	36.87056	-121.82330	36.86731	-121.83149
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Line0260	36.86240	-121.81838	36.85918	-121.82680
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Line0262	36.85820	-121.81641	36.85516	-121.82436
Line0263	36.85605	-121.81546	36.85339	-121.82341
Line0264	36.85415	-121.81420	36.85134	-121.82223
Line0265	36.85342	-121.81347	36.85061	-121.82169
Line0266	36.85266	-121.81278	36.84976	-121.82124
Line0267	36.85193	-121.81209	36.84896	-121.82074
Line0268	36.85089	-121.81183	36.84811	-121.82024
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Line0272	36.84770	-121.80998	36.84479	-121.81837
Line0273	36.84683	-121.80942	36.84399	-121.81787

Line0274	36.84608	-121.80898	36.84320	-121.81740
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Line0276	36.84441	-121.80805	36.84147	-121.81651
Line0277	36.84348	-121.80778	36.84070	-121.81601
Line0278	36.84286	-121.80696	36.83993	-121.81542
Line0279	36.84186	-121.80679	36.83908	-121.81505
Line0280	36.84094	-121.80664	36.83825	-121.81458
Line0281	36.84024	-121.80602	36.83745	-121.81405
Line0282	36.83926	-121.80562	36.83663	-121.81362
Line0283	36.83847	-121.80528	36.83591	-121.81312
Line0284	36.83762	-121.80507	36.83506	-121.81259
Line0285	36.83677	-121.80464	36.83426	-121.81216
Line0286	36.83585	-121.80433	36.83339	-121.81166
Line0287	36.83510	-121.80390	36.83259	-121.81113
Line0288	36.83423	-121.80350	36.83174	-121.81080
Line0289	36.83340	-121.80316	36.83094	-121.81027
Line0290	36.83129	-121.80192	36.82888	-121.80912
Line0291	36.82911	-121.80119	36.82680	-121.80804
Line0292	36.82705	-121.80014	36.82471	-121.80691
Line0293	36.82492	-121.79914	36.82267	-121.80578
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Line0297	36.81697	-121.79365	36.81531	-121.79960
Line0298	36.81495	-121.79133	36.81378	-121.79826
Line0299	36.81259	-121.79090	36.81196	-121.79682
Line0300	36.81046	-121.78998	36.80971	-121.79598
Line0301	36.80818	-121.78971	36.80745	-121.79586

#### **EXHIBIT G**

# California State Lands Commission Presurvey Notice Requirements for Permittees to Conduct Geophysical Survey Activities

All parts of the Presurvey Notice must be adequately filled out and submitted to the CSLC staff a minimum of twenty-one (21) calendar days prior to the proposed survey date to ensure adequate review and approval time for CSLC staff. Note that one or more of the items may require the Permittee to plan well in advance in order to obtain the necessary documentation prior to the Notice due date (e.g., permits from other State or Federal entities). Please use the boxes below to verify that all the required documents are included in the Presurvey Notice. If "No" is checked for any item, please provide an explanation in the space provided. If additional space is needed, please attach separate pages.

Please use the boxes below to verify that all the required documents are included in the Presurvey Notice. If "No" is checked for any item, please provide an explanation in the space provided. If additional space is needed, please attach separate pages.

Yes	No	
X		Geophysical Survey Permit Exhibit F
X		Survey Location (including a full-sized navigation chart and GPS coordinates for each proposed track line and turning point)  Explanation:
X		Permit(s) or Authorization from other Federal or State agencies (if applicable) Explanation: Monterey Bay National Sanctuary Permit # MBNMS-2014-029, City of Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Department (Contract# 8893), California State Parks permit (10/4/2014)
X		21-Day Written Notice of Survey Operations to Statewide Geophysical Coordinator/
X		U.S. Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners
X		Harbormaster and Dive Shop Notifications  Explanation:
X		Marine Wildlife Contingency Plan Explanation:
X		Oil Spill Contingency Plan Explanation:
	X	Verification of California Air Resources Board's Tier 2-Certified Engine Requirement Explanation: <i>Vehicle engines are gasoline fueled and exempt from Tier 2 Certification</i>
X		Verification of Equipment Service and/or Maintenance (must verify sound output)  Explanation:
	X	Permit(s) or Authorization from California Department of Fish and Wildlife for surveys in or affecting Marine Protected Area(s) (if applicable).  Explanation: Survey area is not within nearby Soquel Canyon or Portuguese Ledge MPAs
		Explanation: Survey area is not within nearby Soquel Canyon or Portuguese Ledge MPA

NOTE: CSLC staff will also require verification that current biological information was obtained and transmitted as outlined in Section 5 of this permit

# Marine Wildlife Mitigation Plan Storm Impact Study Bathymetric Survey Monterey Bay, CA.

(November 20, 2014 - April 30, 2015)

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This marine wildlife mitigation plan is prepared in compliance with the USGS Pacific Coastal and Marine Geology Science Center's existing State Geophysical Permit PRC 8394. This plan is intended to provide guidance to USGS vehicle operators and scientific field personnel collecting geophysical data for the Pacific Coastal and Marine Geology Science Center (PCMG) in Santa Cruz, CA to avoid significant impacts to marine wildlife that may occur during regular geophysical surveys.

#### 1.1 Regulatory Basis

Species that are either currently in danger or soon likely to be in danger of extinction throughout all or a portion of its range are protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) implement the Endangered Species Act. During the consultation with NMFS to issue a permit for the offshore geophysical survey, it was determined no incidental take permits are required to use the equipment identified in this document to conduct scientific data acquisition in federal waters offshore of the California coast.

#### 1.2 Geophysical Survey Purpose and Objectives

The USGS Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center will study and evaluate the effects of storms on important geological resources and processes of the northern Monterey Bay, California. The primary coastal feature that will be studied is the beach sediments that make up the region's littoral cell. This system will be studied during a full year (Nov. 2014 - April 2015) so that we can capture the initial conditions, response, and recovery to a winter season.

The beaches of the northern Monterey Bay have strong seasonal dynamics and respond to wave forcing and coarse-grained sediment supplies that come primarily from coastal streams and rivers (Figure 2; Hicks and Inman, 1987; Dingier and Reiss, 2002; Warrick and Barnard, 2012). The sediments of these beaches are commonly the first—and in some places the final—defenses against coastal flooding during winter storms, and these sediments provide important recreational and ecological resources (Dugan et al, 2003). The goal of the second proposed effort is to build a better understanding of the dynamics of littoral sediment—both onshore and offshore of the beach—so that better predictions of coastal change and coastal flooding can be made for the Monterey Bay region. Focus will be placed on mapping nearshore topography and bathymetry in high-resolution; focus will also be placed on mapping regions near sediment sources such as rivers and creeks and near important coastal resources along the Santa Cruz littoral cell.

This work will allow the USGS to evaluate the important patterns, processes and effects of the geological systems in the northern Monterey Bay, and this work would continue the beneficial research relationships between the USGS and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (e.g., Eittreim et al., 2002; Storlazzi et al., 2007; Storlazzi et al., 2013).

PCMG will contact the NOAA Long Beach Office staff and local whale-watching operations to acquire information on the current composition and relative abundance of marine wildlife offshore as well as any pinniped haul out sites. Whale activity is moderate at the moment. The peak whale season is February - May in the Monterey Bay. Whale activity in the area has decreased in the past month. At the center of northernmost survey line, the survey area will be no closer than 400 meters of a known pinniped haul out site at Point Santa Cruz. Additionally, one day prior to survey activities, the NOAA Long Beach office, local whale watching operations will be contacted to get an update on marine wildlife sightings in the area. This information will be conveyed to the captain and crew prior to the survey.

A review of environmental responsibility of project operations will be conducted by the chief scientist in charge of the survey operations prior to commencing the first day of operations. When new personnel will be in the crew, this training will be repeated at least for those new to the crew. They will be made aware of their individual responsibility and will be shown how to be aware of possible environmental impacts and how to mitigate them during the geophysical survey operations. Information relating to seasonality, as an indication of the types of animals that might be in our survey area, at the time of survey work will also be presented to the crew. A copy of this document will be provided to the crew of our survey vehicles.

All personnel will be expected to be consistently aware that they are to be alert to any presence of marine wildlife while they are performing their duties. There are a number of signs/indications of marine wildlife presence and each crew member will be responsible to maintain vigilance for those signs within the constraints of their project duties. Some of those indications are:

- a. <u>Sounds</u> such as splashing, vocalizations (by animals and birds), and blowing (breathing).
- Visual indications birds aggregating, changes in water character such as areas of rippled water, white water caused by splashing, changes in color or shape of the ocean surface

# 1.3 Survey Schedule and Layout

The Project schedule will be from November 20, 2014 through April 30, 2015. However, the proposed individual surveys will be conducted in response to local storm and large wave events that are weather dependent. The first such event is expected to occur around mid-December, 2014 to January, 2015. The proposed mapping areas are along the sandy-beach fronted shorelines of the northern Monterey Bay; the survey vehicles will not be used near rocky reefs and kelp beds. For safety reasons, the survey vehicles are always used in tandem—two at a time— with personnel support on the adjacent beach. Permits and permissions for beach use have been obtained from the City of Santa Cruz Parks and Recreation Department (Contract# 8893), California State Parks (8/4/2014), and the

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Monterey Bay National Wildlife Sanctuary (MBNMS-2014-029). Depending on survey date, the survey vehicles will be launched from either Santa Cruz Harbor or Moss Landing Harbor and will transit at safe speeds to the survey locations. Surveys will be conducted during spring high tides, and across-shore transects will be surveyed from the surf zone (about 1 m depth) to 1-2 km offshore. Survey vehicle operators will operate on survey lines only when conditions are safe and swimmers, paddlers, and wildlife are not present. Data collected in this region are critical however, as most of the sand movement in nearshore areas occurs at shallow depths [cf. Figure 2). Sediment volume changes will be calculated from profile data to determine the rates of net sediment transport between different reaches of the beach, as well as the rates of net on- or offshore transport. This will aid in determining littoral drift rates and in constructing a sediment budget for the system. We propose to conduct 6 bimonthly surveys starting as early as late November 2014.

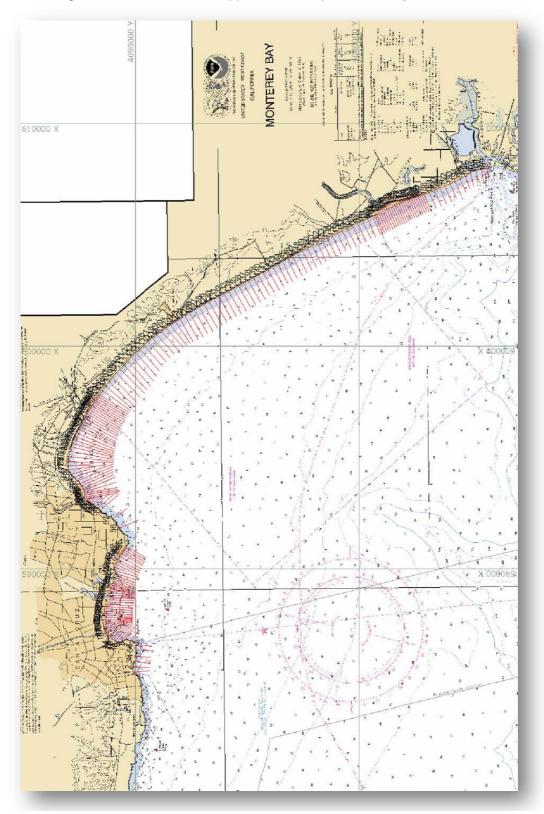


Figure 1. Regional Map of Survey Area

# 2.0 Survey Equipment and Activities

The beach mapping would utilize two USGS Coastal Profiling Systems (CPS), which consist of a personal watercraft instrumented with GPS-based mapping systems and fathometers (Figure 3a). The CPS are identical to the systems used in previously permitted research in the MBNMS (see Storlazzi et al., 2007). CPS are not operated in high surf (generally greater than 5 feet) or in difficult weather conditions such as fog or rain. All CPS operators are USGS employees, insured, and safety-certified by the U.S. Department of Interior.

PCMG proposes to use the following equipment to collect the required data:

 Odom Echotrac CV100 echo sounder using a 200 kHz, 9° downward conical beam transducer

The proposed survey will require the use of a marine vehicle and in-water equipment that generate noise during data acquisition. The results of modeling of the noise generated by the survey equipment is shown in Table 1. Those results indicate that operational source level used for these surveys are less than 160 dB at any range.

Table 1. Distances to Received Pressure Levels from Equipment Sound Source

Sounder System	Frequency (kHz)	Source Level (dB peak)	Source Level (dB rms)	Distance toSL160 dBrms (meters)	Distance to SL 180 dB (rms) (meters)	
Odom Echotrac CV100 Echo Sounder	200 kHz	109	93	<1	<1	<1

These estimates are based on the underwater sound propagation equation:

RSPL=SL-20log(R/Ro)-AR where,

RSPL=Recieved sound potential level

SL= RMS source level re. 1 uPa (rms) based on manufacturer's specifications

R=Distance

Ro= Reference Distance (1 m)

A= sound absorption coefficient

The greatest distance from the sound source to the 160 dB level (<1 m) for the proposed equipment) is considered the "safety zone" for this equipment. However, because the operating frequency of 200 kHz is above the cutoff hearing threshold for marine mammals, CSLC has determined that the observance of the "safety zones" is not a requirement for this survey (personal communication, K. Keen, CSLC).

#### 3.0 Marine Wildlife

#### 3.1 Marine Wildlife

The following discusses the marine wildlife that have been recorded within the project region, those taxa that are most likely to be within the larger project region during survey operations, and methods that will be instituted by the vehicle operator to reduce or eliminate potential impacts to marine wildlife during transit and survey operations.

Table 2 provides information on the seasonal variations in the marine wildlife that are expected to be or have been reported within the Project area.

Table 2: Abundance Estimates for Marine Mammals and Reptiles of California Unless Otherwise Indicated

Common Name Scientific Name	Population Estimate	Current Population Trend
REPTILES		
Cryptodira		
Olive Ridley turtle	1.39 million	Increasing
Lepidochelys olivacea	(Eastern Tropical Pacific)**	
Green turtle	3,319-3,479**	Increasing
Chelonia mydas	(Eastern Pacific Stock)	
Loggerhead turtle	1,000	Decreasing
Caretta caretta	(California)**	_
Leatherback turtle	178	Decreasing
Dermochelys coriacea	(California)**	
MAMMALS		
Mysticeti		
California gray whale	18,017 (Eastern	Fluctuating annually
Eschrichtius robustus	North Pacific Stock)	
Fin whale Balaenoptera	2,624	Increasing off California
physalus	(California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	•
Humpback whale	1,878	Increasing
Megaptera novaeangliae	(California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	
Blue whale	2,046 (Eastern	Unable to determine
Balaenoptera musculus	North Pacific Stock)	
Minke whale Balaenoptera	202	No long-term trends suggested
acutorostrata	(California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	
Northern right whale	17 (based on photo-identification)	No long-term trends suggested
Eubalaena japonica	(Eastern North Pacific Stock)	
Sei whale	83 (Eastern	No long-term trends suggested
Balaenoptera borealls	North Pacific Stock)	
Odontoceti		
Short-beaked common dolphin	343,990	Unable to determine
Delphinus delphis	(California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	
Long-beaked common dolphin	17,127	Unable to determine
Delphinus capensls	(California Stock)	
Dall's porpoise	32,106	Unable to determine
Phocoenoides dalli	(California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	
Harbor porpoise	1,478 (Morro	Increasing
Phocoena phocoena	Bay Stock)	
Pacific white-sided dolphin	21,406	No long-term trends suggested
Lagenorhynchus obllquldens	(California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	
Risso's dolphin	4,913	No long-term trends suggested
Grampus griseus	(California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	
Short-finned pilot whale	465	No long-term trends suggested
Globicephala macrorhynchus	(California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	

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Bottlenose dolphin Turslops truncates	684 (California/Oregon/Washington Offshore Stock)	No long-term trends suggested
	290 (California Coastal Stock)	No long-term trends suggested
Northern right whale dolphin Llssopelphis borealis	6,019 (California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	No long-term trends suggested
Sperm whale Physeter macrocephalus	751 (California/Oregon/Washington Stock)	No long-term trends suggested
Killer whale Orcinus orca	85 (Eastern North Pacific Southern Resident Stock)	Decreasing
	162 (Eastern North Pacific Offshore Stock)	No long-term trends suggested
Pinnipedia	•	
California sea lion Zalophus californianus	141,842 (U.S. Stock)	Unable to determine; increasing in most recent three year period
Northern fur seal Callorhinus ursinus	5,395 (San Miguel Island Stock)	Increasing
Guadalupe fur seal Arctocephalus townsendi	3,028 (Mexico Stock) Undetermined in California	Increasing
Northern (Steller) sea lion Eumetopias jubatus	2,479 California Stock	Decreasing
Northern elephant seal Mirounga angustirostris	74,913	Increasing
Pacific harbor seal Phoca vitulina richardsi	31,600	Stable
Fissipedia		
Southern sea otter Enhydra lutris nereis	2,711*	Unable to determine

Estimates provided by National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries 2011) \*

Estimate provided by USGS (2010)

During the transit periods, there is a potential for encountering marine wildlife. Table 3 lists those species that are likely to occur in the survey area

<sup>\*\*</sup> Estimates provided by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) (2004), Marquez, et al. (2002), Eguchi et ai. (2007), Benson et al. (2007), and NMFS (2007). Estimates are based on number of current numbers of nesting females.

# Table 3. Marine Wildlife Species and Most Likely Periods of Occurrence within the Survey Area

Family					Moi	nth of Oc	h of Occurrence <1)					
Common Name	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	0	N	D
REPTILES		•	•	•	•		•			•		
Cyptodira												
Olive Ridley turtle (T) <sup>(2)</sup>												
Green turtle (T) <sup>(1),(2)</sup>												
Loggerhead turtle (T) (2)												
Leatherback turtle (E) (2)												
MAMMALS												
Mysticeti												
California gray whale												
Blue whale (E)												
Fin whale (E)												
Humpback whale (E)												
Minke whale												
Sei whale (E)												
Northern right whale (E)												
Odontoceti												
Short-beaked common dolphin												
Dall's porpoise												
Harbor porpoise												
Long-beaked common dolphin												
Pacific white-sided dolphin												
Risso's dolphin												
Sperm whale												
Short-finned pilot whale												
Bottlenose dolphin												
Northern right whale dolphin												
Killer whale												
Pinnipedia												
Northern fur seal (3)												
California sea lion												
Northern elephant seal (4)												
Pacific harbor seal												
Guadalupe fur seal (T)												
Steller sea lion												
Fissipedia												
Southern sea otter (T) (5)												
Relatively uniform distribution			No	t expected	to occur			Most I	ikely to oc	cur due to dis	seasonal tribution	

<sup>(</sup>E) Federally listed endangered species.

<sup>(</sup>T) Federally listed threatened species.

<sup>(1)</sup> Not Used

<sup>(2)</sup> Rarely encountered, but may be present year-round. Greatest abundance during July through September.

<sup>(3)</sup> Only a small percent occur over continental shelf (except near San Miguel rookery, May-November).

<sup>(4)</sup> Common near land during winter breeding season and spring molting season.

<sup>(5)</sup> Only nearshore (diving limit 100 feet).

Sources: Bonnell and Dailey (1993), NOAA Fisheries (2011), NCCOS (2007)

#### 4.0 ONBOARD MITIGATIONS

# 4.1 Fishing Gear Clearance

In addition to submitting the required Notice to Mariners that will advise commercial fishers of pending on-water activities, prior to the start of each survey day the vehicles will traverse the proposed survey corridor for that day to note and record the presence of deployed fishing gear. No survey lines within 30 m (100 ft) of the observed fishing gear will be completed. The survey crew will not remove or relocate any fishing gear; removal or relocation will only be accomplished by the owner or by an authorized CDFG agent.

#### 4.3 Marine Wildlife Monitoring

NOAA does not require exclusion/safety zones to be monitored. The operational source level for these survey operations is 93 dB RMS at 200 kHz, well below the maximum 160 dB sound level considered safe for operating in the proximity of marine mammals. Because there is only one CPS operator on board the survey vehicle during survey operation, their primary responsibilities during survey operations is the safe operation of the vehicle and operation of the data acquisition system, it is not possible for them to log wildlife observation data. However, the operator will provide a narrative of any sightings or encounters with marine wildlife during the day's survey operations and these narratives will be provided in the summary report for each survey.

### 4.3 Mitigations During Transit and Survey

The research vehicles will transit during day-light hours from Santa Cruz harbor. During transits, there is a potential for encountering marine wildlife and the vehicle operators will take every precaution to avoid close proximity to wildlife. During transits, the vehicle will maintain a minimum distance of 100 m (1,640 ft.) from observed animals. If the vehicle operator observes a marine mammal within the path of the transiting vehicle , they will immediately slow the vehicle and/or change course in order to avoid contact.

Cetaceans (whales) vary in their swimming patterns and duration of dives and therefore all shipboard personnel will be watchful as the vehicle crosses the path of a whale or anytime whales are observed in the area.

If whales are observed during transits, the vehicle operator will institute the following measures:

- Maintain a minimum distance of 100 m from sighted whales;
- Do not cross directly in front of or across the path of sighted whales;
- When transit directions is parallel to whale path, maintain constant speed that is not greater than the whales speed, or alter transit direction away from whale path;
- Do not position the vehicle in such a manner to separate female whales from their

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calves;

• If a whale engages in evasive or defensive action, slow the vehicle and move away from the animal until the animal calms or moves out of the area.

During survey operations, the vehicle will maintain survey a speed of approximately 4 knots and will maintain a heading that coincides with survey track lines. If marine wildlife is observed within the vicinity of the vehicle, the vehicle operator will take precautions to avoid collision, ending and restarting the track line survey if necessary.

If a collision with marine wildlife occurs, the vehicle operator will document the conditions under which the accident occurred, including the following:

- Location of the vehicle when the collision occurred (latitude and longitude);
- Date and time:
- Speed and heading of the vehicle;
- Observed conditions (e.g., wind speed and direction, swell height, visibility in miles or kilometers, and presence of rain or fog);
- Species of marine wildlife contacted; and
- Organization, vehicle ID and name of master in charge of the vehicle at time of accident.

In accordance with NOAA requirements, after a collision, the vehicle should stop, if safe to do so. The vehicle may proceed after confirming that it will not further damage the animal by doing so. The vehicle will then communicate by radio or telephone all details to the vehicle's base of operations. The PCMG Marine Operations Superintendent will contact the Stranding Coordinator, NMFS, Southwest Region, Long Beach, to obtain instructions. Alternatively, the vehicle captain may contact the NMFS Stranding Coordinator directly using the marine operator to place the call or directly from an onboard telephone, if available to:

NOAA Southwest Regional Stranding Coordinator National Marine Fisheries Service 501 West Ocean Blvd, Suite 4200 Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 562-980-4017 Contact: Sarah Wilkin

Email: sarah.wilkin@noaa.gov

It is unlikely that the vehicle will be asked to stand by until NOAA or CDFG personnel arrive, however this will be determined by the Stranding Coordinator. According to the MMPA, the vehicle operator is not allowed to aid injured marine wildlife or recover the carcass unless requested to do so by the NOAA Stranding Coordinator.

Although NOAA has primary responsibility for marine mammals in both state and federal waters, the CDFG will also be advised that an incident has occurred in state waters affecting a protected species. Reports should be communicated to the federal and state agencies listed below:

ı	F	е	d	е	ra	

Sarah Wilkin, Stranding Coordinator Southwest Region National Marine Fisheries Service Long Beach, California (562)980-4017

#### State

Enforcement Dispatch Desk California Department of Fish and Game Long Beach, California (562)590-5132

#### State

California State Lands Commission Mineral Resources Management Division Long Beach, California (562) 590-5071

### 4.4 Operational Measures

#### **Soft Start**

The soft-start technique required for sonar equipment operating above the hearing threshold for marine mammals at 200 kHz is predicated on research investigations of low frequency side lobes for 200 kHz sonar systems (Deng et al., 200 kHz Commercial Sonar Systems Generate Lower Frequency Side Lobes Audible to Some Marine Mammals, PLOS ONE, 2014). This work was based on a measured 90 kHz sub harmonic at 141 dB re. 1 $\mu$ PA @ 1m generated by a 200 kHz sonar signal at 195 dB re. 1 $\mu$ PA @ 1m and a marine mammal hearing threshold of 70 dB . Modeling of our system's equivalent source levels based on their measurements, our echo sounder would generate a 90 kHz harmonic at 69 dB re. 1 $\mu$ PA @ 1m, which is below the hearing threshold of concern, within 1 m from the vehicle. We conclude from this that a soft start technique has no practical application for our survey operations. However, we none the less intend to take a conservative approach by increasing power upon startup at a 25% increase in power from zero to our operational power level of 93 dB over a five minute period.

## **Wildlife Monitoring**

Marine wildlife monitoring will not be required by onboard personnel for these operations, but the operator will provide a narrative of any observations that occur within the survey area.. Because the survey echo sounder operated above 200 kHz, no safety zone is required. However, USGS will take the following precautionary measures:

- Not approach within 300 m of the haul-out site (consistent with NMFS guidelines);
- Expedite survey activity in this area in order to minimize the potential for disturbance of pinnipeds on land;
- Pinniped haul out site location is given in Table 4.
- The vehicle will continuously monitor the daily survey area to ascertain the presence, species and location of any marine wildlife is apparent in the intended survey area. The

vehicle master and onboard personnel will be watchful whales or marine mammals are observed in the area. The vehicle operator shall observe the following guidelines:

- Make every effort to maintain distance from sighted marine mammals and other marine wildlife;
- Do not cross directly in front of (perpendicular to) migrating whales or any other marine mammal or turtle;
- When paralleling marine mammals or turtles, the vehicle will operate at a constant speed that is not faster than that of the animals;
- Care will be taken to ensure female whales are not separated from their calves; and, if a whale engages in evasive or defensive action, the vehicle will reduce speed or stop until the animal calms or moves out of the area.

**Table 4 Pinniped Haul Out Locations** 

LOCATION	SPECIES	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
Point Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA	California Sea Lion	36.95	-122.03
Soquel Point, Santa Cruz, CA	California Sea Lion	36.95	-122.98
Cement Ship, Aptos, CA	California Sea Lion	36.97	-122.91

#### Vehicle Speed

The CPS operator will refrain from erratic operating behavior when transiting to eh survey site and shall operate at, or less than, a speed of approximately 4 knots once on survey station.

#### Limitations on equipment usage

Limitations on the frequency, pulse length, and pulse rate will be implemented to reduce potential harmful noises. The shortest possible pulse length and lowest pulse rate (pings per second) will be used, dependent on water depth.

#### 4.5 Monitoring Reporting

A Post Survey Field Operations and Compliance Report will be submitted to CSLC staff as soon as possible but no more than 30 days after the completion of survey activities.

USGS Pacific Coastal and Marine Geology Science Center California Seafloor Mapping Program (CSMP) - Monterey Bay Swath Mapping Survey

# U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY PACIFIC COASTAL AND MARINE GEOLOGY SCIENCE CENTER

# MANAGEMENT OF ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE AND VESSEL INCIDENTS DURING OFFSHORE GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The survey operations will be conducted using two USGS personal watercraft (jet skis) that comprise our Coastal Profiling Systems (CPS). Because of the vehicle's small size, it is anticipated that response to any operational spills will be quickly identified and response will be initiated quickly and efficiently by the vehicle operator. Oil spills in United States (U.S.) marine waters shall be reported immediately.

#### 2.0 OPERATIONAL SPILLS

Operational spills might involve one or more of the following substances carried on board the vehicles: (i) fuel and (ii) lube oil. The vehicles are equipped with woven polypropylene sheets (5 sheets) for rapid absorption of surface oil and protective gloves (1 pair), and a disposal bag (1) This oil spill materials are located in the forward cabinet of the vehicle. This spill kit is rated to clean up .25 gallons of liquid. All of the liquids (listed below) that could cause a hazardous spill are either in the fuel tank or in the vehicle engine. Spill occurrence will likely be during fueling, in the event of grounding or if any instance occurred that punctured the gas tank. In the event a spill occurred in the engine compartment, the oil spill kit would be used to contain the hazardous liquids and the bilge would not be emptied until it could be pumped out at a hazardous waste facility. We do not anticipate a spill of greater than .25 gallons.

#### (i) Fuel:

A spill kit shall be available for use in the event of a spill. If the fuel is spilled on the deck, it shall be immediately removed, bagged and disposed of at an appropriate hazardous waste reception facility. In the event of spillage in the water, the vessel master shall notify the Coast Guard and port facility.

#### (ii) Lube oil:

A spill kit shall be available for use in the event of a spill. If the oil is spilled in the machinery space, it shall be immediately removed, bagged and disposed of at an appropriate hazardous waste reception facility. In the event of spillage in the water, the vehicle operator shall notify the Coast Guard and port facility.

#### 3.0 EMPLOYEE TRAINING ON OIL SPILL CONTINGENCY PLAN

Prior to the launching of the vessel for any activities, all captain and crew members on the vessel will have read the Oil Spill Contingency Plan, understand procedures to be implemented in the event of an oil spill, and know where the oil spill kit is located on the vessel.

#### 4.0 VESSEL FUELING

All vessel fueling will be conducted at an approved docking facility. No cross vessel fueling will be performed. Appropriate spill avoidance measures during filling procedures will be observed. Refueling of the CPS is not allowed at the shoreline unless there is a compelling reason to do so and sufficient spill response equipment to address a spill is on site (i.e., sorbent and containment materials equal to approximately one-third the capacity of the fuel tank).

#### 5.0 PRIORITY ACTIONS TO ENSURE PERSONNEL AND VESSEL SAFETY

Safety of vehicle operators and the vehicles are paramount. In the event that a crewman's injuries require outside emergency assistance, the PCMG safety officer shall be contacted immediately and emergency personnel contacted. While awaiting emergency assistance, the on board vessel master or qualified vessel crew personnel will render first aid and/or CPR. The nearest emergency medical facilities for this area is:

Dominican Hospital Emergency Department 1555 Soquel Dr, Santa Cruz, CA 95065 (831) 462-7710

#### 6.0 MITIGATING ACTIVITIES

If safety of both the vessel and the personnel has been addressed, the vessel master shall care for the following issues:

- Assessment of the situation and monitoring of all activities as documented evidence.
- Care for further protection of the personnel, use of protective gear, assessment of further risk to health and safety.
- Containment of the spilled material by absorption and safe disposal within leak proof
  containers of all used material onboard until proper delivery ashore, with due
  consideration to possible fire risk.
- Decontamination of personnel after finishing the cleanup process.

#### 7.0 EMERGENCY CONTACTS FOR STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES

Emergency numbers for U.S.C.G. for the San Francisco and Central Coast Areas are:

Pacific SAR Coordinator - Alameda: 510-437-3700

Rescue Coordination Center, Alameda: 510-437-3700

Any oil spill in U.S. marine waters shall be reported immediately to the following state and agencies:

West Coast Oil Spill hot-line

Department of Fish and Game CalTIP

(Californians Turn In Poachers & Polluters)

U.S. Coast Guard National Response Center

California Office of Emergency Services (OES)

800-OELS-911, or
888-CFG-CALTip
(888-334-2258). and
800-424-8802
800-OILS-911 or 800-852-7550.

During the phone call, the following information will be given over the phone.

- a. Name and telephone number of caller.
- b. Spill location
- c. What was spilled (oil, gas, diesel, etc.)
- d. Estimated size of spill
- e. The date & time spill was identified (same day).
- f. Any oiled or threatened wildlife
- g. Source of spill, if known
- h. Activity observed at the spill site

After taking the necessary actions, the spill will be reported in writing to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services on their forms.

Additionally, California Department of Fish and Game certified wildlife rescue/response organizations will be contacted about the spill. In the Southern California area, these include the following contacts:

Oiled Wildlife Care Network Animal Advocates 1-877-UCD-OWCN 323-651-1336

California Wildlife Center South Bay Wildlife Rehab 310-458-9453 310-378-9921

US Geological Survey - Pacific Coastal and Marine Geology Science Center Oil Spill Contingency Plan - Monterey Bay Storm Impact Study